

**BURIEN BUSINESS AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP (BEDP)
STUDY SESSION**

Date: May 8, 2009

Time: 7:00 -- 9:00 a.m.

Members Present: Alice Madsen, Jim Hughes, Dave Elliott, Michael Goldsmith, Doug Moreland, Nancy Hinthorne, Geri Fain, Jane Voget, Bob Ewing, Renée Klein, Carmen Moore

Excused Absentees: Kevin Fitz, Mark Minium, Judy Coover

Staff: Mike Martin, City Manager; Dick Loman, Economic Development Manager; Janet Stallman, Department Assistant

Guests: Mayor Joan McGilton, Councilmember Kathy Keene, Patty Sader, Executive Director, Discover Burien

Call to Order: Meeting opened at 7:00 a.m. by Michael Goldsmith, Chair

Approval of minutes from April 24, 2009

Chair's Report

Michael reported that Judy Coover is "on-board" with being Vice Chair.

Given our new schedule, are we going to map out where we want to go for the rest of the year. Some of the topics include:

- Microenterprise
- 2050 project
- Schools Report (Students in Highline District – who they are; how they're doing.)
- Development project – hard hat tour; at Hospital
- Sustainability – what's a green business? How can building permits be part of the program of sustainability.
- Dave suggested having a "seniors in schools" volunteer program.

City Manager Report

Mike Martin gave a brief report which included an update on annexation. He mentioned the grand opening event on June 13th and invited everyone to attend. Mike gave a brief update on the current budget shortfall. Budget cuts will be made in mid-2009. The full directional interchange at Des Moines Memorial Drive is looking very favorable. A discussion on the sign code ensued in connection with a specific business. And, Mike mentioned a few ways that the City was looking at trying to be helpful through these tough economic times.

Economic Development Report

Dick gave a brief update on the status of the TOD; the early response to the presentation by the PSRC was that it was well received based on the questions that followed. By the end of next week, we expect to see a preliminary listing of the competition.

Discover Burien

- The Farmer's Market opened yesterday. Patty will have a full report next meeting.
- The Social networking series was rescheduled to June 3rd at Cox Financial.
- Discover Burien is working with the City on the June 13th Grand Opening Event.
- The Discover Burien annual retreat is next Monday night.
- The Father's Day Car show is coming up, as is the Strawberry Festival, June 21st.
- The Spring Stroll & Plant Sale will be in Old Burien this weekend (not a DB event).

July 2nd – “Where We Live Now” Event

“Where we Live Now” Transition Zone (Not an inner city; not a suburb)

Mayor McGilton explained why Thomas Sieverts is coming to Seattle/Burien, and invited BEDP members to attend the event. More information will be provided as the date gets closer. Bob Ewing volunteered to go on the walking tour of the City with the group. He feels like the BEDP should take advantage of the event to see how others view Burien.

153rd Street

It is time to start thinking about how we integrate 153rd Street into the downtown. Some comments made by members included:

- It is not pedestrian friendly and has no intentional connections.
- At a minimum, trees would make it palatable to walk on it. There's a lot you can do to make it more pedestrian friendly, without having to redo the whole thing.
- What do we want 153rd to feel like?
- I think First Ave. S. would be more important to improve than 153rd Street.
- This could be incorporated into the Visioning Committee.

Carmen Moore gave a brief overview of Microenterprise (Microloans) and wondered whether it would be something we would like to encourage in Burien? They provide loans up to \$35,000. In Seattle, they have incubator space, where businesses share office space to help businesses get started.

Round the Table

- Nancy Hinthorne mentioned that Congressman Adam Smith is speaking at the Chamber's Member Lunch today.
- Patty mentioned that the after-hours (6-8 pm networking event) will be at Cox Financial – Wednesday.